

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L 181115Z AUG 88 STAFF

CIT. FBIS/NICOSIA 00813

TO: FBIS.

RYDGI

SUBJECT: HONORARIUM PAYMENT

REF: A. FBIS/NICOSIA 00642 DTD 14 MAR 88
B. FBIS/NICOSIA 00664 DTD 6 APR 88
C. FBIS/NICOSIA 00764 DTD 25 JUL 88

cc: AC/MOD

25X1

1. THE EMBASSY RECEIVED 16 AUGUST FROM STATE A U.S. TREASURY CHECK DATED 22 JUNE IN THE AMOUNT OF [REDACTED] PAYABLE TO THE GOC. I'VE ADVISED THE ACTING DCM -- THE MISSION ADMIN OFFICER -- TO TAKE NO ACTION PENDING THE DCM'S RETURN TO POST ON 3 SEPTEMBER.

25X1

2. SINCE MY ARRIVAL, WE HAVE RECEIVED NO INDICATION FROM THE GOC OF INTENT TO RENEGOTIATE THE HONORARIUM. NONE IS EXPECTED IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS EITHER AS THE NEW ADMINISTRATION PREPARES FOR THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS IN GENEVA AND THE NONALIGNED FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE IN NICOSIA.

3. IN PREPARATION FOR THE DCM MAKING THE ANNUAL PAYMENT, WOULD APPRECIATE HQ THINKING ON WHETHER FBIS WANTS TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO REQUEST ADDITIONAL SLOTS IN RETURN FOR A HIGHER PAYMENT. IF SO OR SHOULD THE GOC TAKE THE INITIATIVE, WOULD APPRECIATE CURRENT GUIDANCE ON ACCEPTABLE FIGURES FOR BOTH PAYMENT LEVEL AND NUMBER OF SLOTS.

4. COMMENT: MY RECOMMENDATION IS TO LEAVE THE INITIATIVE TO THE GOC. I WOULD ALSO RECOMMEND, AS MENTIONED IN REF C, THAT WE CONSIDER WORKING TOWARD TRYING TO ELIMINATE THE ANNUAL PAYMENT IN PLACE OF SEEKING MORE SLOTS FOR A HIGHER PAYMENT.

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PAGE 2 FBIS/NICOSIA 00813 C O N F I D E N T I A L
ALTHOUGH UNDERSTANDING THE ARGUMENT FOR SETTING ASSIDE
ESSENTIALLY EMERGENCY SLOTS AT NICOSIA BUREAU, I BELIEVE BOTH
IMPROVED INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITIES AND THE
ADMITTEDLY UNTESTED POSSIBILITY OF OPERATING IN TURKEY BOTH
LESSEN THE REQUIREMENT FOR HAVING TO OPERATE IN CYPRUS, AT LEAST
TO THE EXTENT OF PAYING SPECIALLY FOR THAT CAPABILITY.

5. ALSO RECOMMEND THAT THE DCM BE ASKED TO EXPLORE THE
GOC'S POSITION ON HIRING OF GREEK CYPRIOTS BEYOND THE
OVERALL CEILING [] AS THE BUREAU PLANS FOR ACTIVITIES
LIKE FBA AND INTERNET, IT WOULD BE VERY USEFUL TO KNOW
WHETHER, AS I SUSPECT, WE COULD GO AHEAD, REGARDLESS OF
THE PERSONNEL CEILING, AND HIRE GREEK CYPRIOTS NEEDED TO
FILL TECHNICAL POSITIONS.

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6. PLS ADVISE WHETHER YOU WANT HONORARIUM MESSAGES TO
BE KEPT IN THE RYBAT CHANNEL. []
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